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COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

SONIC

THE HEDGEHOG



SEGA



Antoine
THE
BRAVE...?

DIRECT EDITION

FEATURING:
SONIC'S UNCLE CHUCK!

After ten long years, the iron-fisted rule of DOCTOR ROBOTNIK over the planet MOBIUS was believed to have ended! Now the villain has returned to wreak havoc once more, but there are many who are willing to stand against him in the fight for freedom. The bravest among them is a brash, blue blur who just happens to be the fastest thing alive!

ARCHIE COMICS AND SEGA PRESENT...

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG!



MISTAKEN IDENTITY CRISIS!

ONE FINE DAY IN
KNOTHOLE VILLAGE...

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EDITOR IN CHIEF

PART 1

ZEE I WAS,
ANTHONY, OUTNUMBERED
BY NOT ONE, NOT TWO,
BUT THREE OF ZEE
DREADED OVERLANDERS
SOLDIERS!

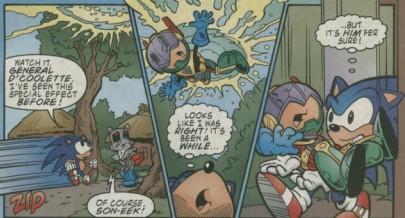
ZEN
WHAT 'APPENED,
PAPA?

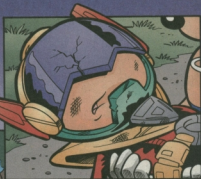
SUDDENLY...

SACRE
BLEU!

YIKES!

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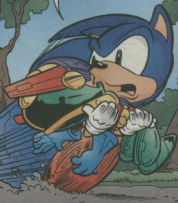




NAME'S
ZONIC-- HE'S A
COP FROM
ANOTHER
ZONE ...*

* ALTERNATE
REALITY.

...BUT RIGHT
NOW, HE NEEDS
FIRST AID!



AH, Z AT SON-EEK,
ALWAYS WITH ZEE
BRAVERY AND ZEE
HEROISM...



...EEZ FATHER
MUST BE VERY
PROUD!



OUI.

MISTAKEN IDENTITY CRISIS!

PART 2

WELL,
DOCTOR
QUACK...?

ZONIC'S BEEN
THROUGH SOME
PHYSICAL TRAUMA,
SONIC, BUT HE'S
GOING TO MAKE IT.
WHAT I DON'T
UNDERSTAND...

...IS WHY
HE LOOKS
EXACTLY
LIKE YOU!

THAT'S
BECAUSE HE
IS ME.

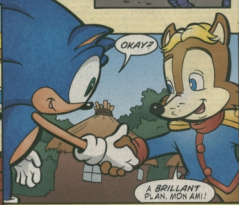
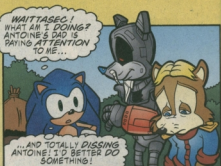
ANOTHER
VERSION OF ME
FROM A PERPEN-
DICULAR ZONE.*

I SEE,
BUT WHAT'S HE
DOING HERE?

MORE IMPOR-
TANTLY, WHO
HIT HIM ON
THE
NOGGIN'?

* See SONIC SUPER
SPECIAL #12.





WHY DON'T YOU
KEEP **STROLLING**
WITH YOUR DEAR,
OLD DAD...

...AND I'LL
BE **ALONG**
IN A FEW!



BUT OF
COURSE! SURELY
YOU ARE A
GENIUS!



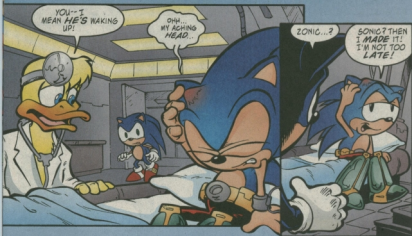
MISTAKEN IDENTITY CRISIS!

PART 3

I **KNOW**,
BUT IT'S SONIC,
NOT "SHIRLEY."
OKAY?

I CANNOT
WAIT TO SEE
WHAT SONIC **AZ**
PLANNED!





"...IS LOOSE
IN THIS ZONE!

ROBOTNEEK
LEFT ME NO CHOICE,
PAPA, SO...

HAI-YAA!

I CHOPPED
ZEE KARATE
TO EEZ HEAD,
ZEN TO EEZ
SHOULDERS,
AND ZEN--

BUT I AM NOT
UNDERSTANDING
ONE THING, SON.

OW WERE YOU
NOT ROBOTICIZED
BY EEZ TOUCH?

OH! ZAT.
WELL, ER...
I...

MADE
DA WHOLE
THING UP!
AIN'T DAT
RIGHT,
WIMP?





SEGA DATA FILE: I

SONIC

THE HEDGEHOG



FIRST APPEARANCE: SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #0, February 1993

FULL NAME: * Maurice Hedgehog AKA Sonic

(* Real first name yet to be revealed)

BORN: 162 / 3220

HEIGHT: 70 marks **WEIGHT:** 7.2 stone

FUR: Blue

EYES: Green

KNOWN FAMILY: Jules Hedgehog (father - roboticized), Bernadette "Bernie" Hedgehog (mother - roboticized), Sir Charles Hedgehog (uncle - roboticized)

KNOWN FRIENDS: Princess Sally, Tails, Rotor, Bunnie Rab-bit, Mina, Amy Rose, Antoine

SPECIAL EQUIPMENT: Ultra-weight high friction resistant super velocity track shoes

HISTORY: Sonic was born during the early days of the Great War to a loving couple, Jules and Bernadette Hedgehog. He was originally named after his grandfathers, but soon inspired the nickname "Sonic" due to his constant running to get anywhere.

While a young toddler, both of Sonic's parents fell victim to the evil despot Robotnik's roboticizer, a device originally created for medical purposes by Sonic's uncle, the renowned Sir Charles Hedgehog. Upon discovering how his device was used, Sir Charles renounced his scientific work and instead devoted himself to raising his nephew and operating a chili-dog stand.

Sonic soon found himself befriended by Princess Sally, whom he met while accompanying his uncle on one of his many visits with King Acorn during the Great War. At one point, the situation grew so desperate that a number of children - including Sonic - were sent off with Princess Sally and her guardians Rosie and Julaya to a sanctuary in Knothole Village.

Shortly after the Great War, Warlord Julian renamed himself Doctor Ivo Robotnik, seized control of the kingdom and roboticized Sir Charles, thus effectively making Sonic an orphan. Upon learning what happened, Sonic began striking back on his own, eventually finding himself being joined on his many acts of insurrection by many of his friends who also happened to lose their parents to the evil Robotnik's mad schemes.

As the years passed, Sonic firmly established himself as Robotnik's number one nemesis. Having constantly thwarted Robotnik's plans numerous times, Sonic found the tables turned when Robotnik managed to engineer what appeared to be the death of Princess Sally, and succeeded in placing the blame for the crime on Sonic. So devastated was he by the loss of his cherished friend, that when Sonic eventually faced off against Robotnik, it was nothing less than a fight to the death.

Having vanquished Robotnik and discovering the Princess was in stasis during his ordeal, Sonic was soon reunited with Sally, who then began organizing the task of restoring Mobotropolis to its original glory. It was during this time that Sonic was not only reunited with his Uncle Chuck, but also his parents, all three still in roboticized form but now in full possession of their memories and free will.

It didn't take long for Sonic to become thoroughly bored with the clean-up detail and decide to travel around Mobius alongside his best buddy Tails in search of adventure. By the time the pair eventually returned, Mobotropolis had been rebuilt and a number of changes had taken place. Soon after, another, more deadly, version of Robotnik appeared on the scene and resumed his conquest of the planet.

Since then, Sonic has once again established himself as the premier foe of this most dastardly villain, and an inspiration to all in his constant fight for freedom.

SEG DATA FILE: 2

HISTORY: When Sonic first encountered the enigmatic echidna, not even Knuckles himself was aware of either the long, noble heritage he was born into or the current status of his people, having spent the previous six plus years on his own as the sole defender of the Floating Island and Guardian of the Chaos Emerald. Before long, fate would intervene and begin filling in the blanks.

Knuckles' path in life was established centuries before he was even born, having descended from Edmund, the first Guardian. Sixteen generations later, Edmund's descendent Locke would meet and marry the fair Lara-Le of the House of Arion. After a couple of years of happy, wedded bliss, their son Knuckles was born. Unknown at the time to Lara-Le, Locke had subjected the egg Knuckles was hatched from to an intense dose of Chaos radiation with the intention of enhancing Knuckles' abilities far beyond what his ancestors had achieved.

Before long, Knuckles displayed intelligence and capabilities unusual to find in one so young. When he was but three years of age, it was then that Locke decided that his son's training as a Guardian should begin, much against the wishes of Lara-Le. As time progressed, the disagreements concerning the raising of their child became so pronounced that by the time Knuckles was five, when Locke had decided to separate both himself and his son from echidna society and return to their homeland on the Floating Island, it effectively ended the marriage between Locke and Lara-Le.

Due to a cataclysm that had occurred almost two centuries ago, the echidnas — along with all the other inhabitants of the Floating Island — had relocated to the safety of another zone. When Locke and Knuckles returned, the first item of business was the systematic repatriation of the previous inhabitants other than the echidnas. It was during this time that Locke supervised his son's training, preparing him for the day when he would assume the duties and responsibilities of a Guardian.

Locke tutored Knuckles in history, mathematics, geography, the sciences and any other subject necessary to carry out the tasks expected of him. Although for the most part he led a somewhat isolated existence, Knuckles made friends every now and then, sometimes in a most unexpected manner as was the case when he first met Princess Sally, heir to the Kingdom of Acorn.

Shortly after Knuckles' tenth birthday, Locke was of a mind that Knuckles was ready to assume the role of Guardian, and thus made the trek to the Forbidden Zone to join the Brotherhood in Haven, a group composed of several previous Guardians, all related through the same bloodline.

For the next few years, Knuckles carried out his duties as expected, his only friend a cockatoo named Catweazle with whom he associated with on a sporadic basis. By the time he met up with Sonic and Tails for the first time, Knuckles' disposition had turned quite surly and it wasn't until he became

KNUCKLES

THE ECHIDNA



FIRST APPEARANCE: SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #13, August 1994

FULL NAME: Knuckles

FAMILY STATION: Son of Locke of the House of Edmund, current Guardian of the Chaos Emerald

BORN: 251 / 3220

HEIGHT: 72 marks **WEIGHT:** 7.7 stone

FUR: Red

EYES: Purple

KNOWN FAMILY: Locke (father), Lara-Le (mother), Wynnacher (step-father), Sabre (grandfather), Jenna-Lu (grandmother), Athair (great-grandfather - current status unknown), Crystal-La (great-grandmother - robotized)

KNOWN FRIENDS: Julie-Su, Espio, Mighty, Vector, Charmy, Archimedes, Catweazle, Sonic, Tails, Princess Sally

SPECIAL ABILITIES: able to channel the power of Chaos Emeralds via the use of superior willpower, the limitations of this power are as yet unknown due to the mutation of Knuckles' physical body into its current state as a living Chaos Emerald

friends with Vector the Crocodile, Espio the Chameleon, Mighty the Armadillo and Charmy Bee that his mood began to change.

It was also around this time that the fire-ant Archimedes stepped in to mentor Knuckles as he did in the same manner with Locke in his younger days. Shortly after their initial meeting, they would be confronted by Enerjak, who turned out to be the brother of Knuckles' deceased ancestor, Edmund. Enerjak possessed abilities far beyond any echidna, due to his exposure of Chaos energy via a device he himself created with the intention of restoring the Floating Island back to its original position on the surface of Mobius. Using guile and teamwork, Knuckles and Archimedes were able to overcome the threat of Enerjak, as well as the threat from those that soon followed, such as the Dark Legion.

Since then, the city of Echidnapolis and all who dwelled within its magnificent structures have been restored to the Floating Island. Knuckles has been reunited with his family and learned of his history, and life in general has gone on.

Currently, the process that began with Locke continues as Knuckles has evolved into essentially a living Chaos Emerald, possessing power far beyond any creature in existence. Even though his ancestors were all able to channel the power of the Chaos Emerald to some extent, which also extended their lifespans far beyond that of the average echidna, none wielded the power more than a fraction of what Knuckles is capable of.

As he struggles to cope with his awesome abilities, Knuckles also tries to maintain some semblance of normality through his relationships with his girlfriend Julie-Su, his family and his friends. His mother Lara-Le has remarried, and with her new husband is currently expecting her second child. His father is still single and a key member of the Brotherhood.

As for the future of Floating Island and the echidnas in general, it is safe to say that Knuckles will continue to evolve into a position of being a key player with major implications far beyond the limited scope of his original role.



SEG DATA FILE: 3

TAILS



FIRST APPEARANCE: SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #0, February 1993

FULL NAME: Miles Prower AKA Tails

BORN: 297 / 3225

CURRENT HEIGHT: 56 marks **WEIGHT:** 63 stone

FUR: Orange

EYES: Light blue

DISTINGUISHING PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTIC: Has two tails

KNOWN FAMILY: Amadeus (father - roboticized), Rosemary (late unknown - presumed roboticized), Merlin (uncle)

KNOWN FRIENDS: Sonic, Princess Sally, Knuckles, Amy Rose, Dulcy

HISTORY: As the noted Mobian author Webster Dickens once wrote: "It was the best of times, it was the not so best of times". And so it was the day Miles

Prower was born into the world on a bright sunny day, just as his father Amadeus was roboticized after discovering Warlord Julian's plans to seize control of the Kingdom of Acorn. From that point forward, it would be another ten years before young Miles would know a world of peace.

During his formative years, young Miles developed a very close relationship with a hedgehog five years older than he known to all as Sonic. So attached was Miles to Sonic that rarely could you find one without the other, especially after Miles' mother Rosemary mysteriously disappeared one day. From that day forward they were inseparable.

Several years later, the status quo changed when Sonic began accompanying Princess Sally, Rotor and Antoine on missions behind enemy lines, hoping to do their part in the fight against Robotnik for what he did to their parents. Young Miles, by this time more commonly referred to as "Tails" because of his unique twin tails, very much resented not being allowed to come along on account of his junior status.

In an effort to placate the young cub fox, Princess Sally had Rotor build him a submersible vessel known as the Sea Fox. Eager to try it out, Tails discovered its one shortcoming: it couldn't work without oil. Since Princess Sally hadn't authorized any oil to be allocated for use in the Sea Fox, Tails was forced to rely on his own devices. After locating enough of the precious fuel to power the submarine, Tails would then take off in search of adventure.

One of the most heart-wrenching ordeals Tails experienced was his encounter with the beautiful and intelligent Fiona Fox, whom he fell in love with for the first time. So crushed was he upon discovering Fiona was a robotic creation of Robotnik's that it would be a long time before he would allow himself to be smitten by a girl again.

It was also during another of these adventures that Tails met up with the echidna Athair, the Ancient Walkers and the Downunda Freedom Fighters, all of whom would have some effect on his life in the years to come having learned that he was now designated "The Chosen One", Mobius' greatest savior in its hour of need.

When Mammoth Mogul acquired the power of the Chaos Emerald, the situation appeared to be very grim until the Turbo-power manifested itself within Tails, the first physical sign that he was different from all others. Unknown to everyone at the time, however, it was during this battle that the Miles "Tails" Prower everyone knew and loved was mysteriously replaced with an exact doppelganger, who believed that he was the real true Tails.

From that point on, everyone had assumed all was normal with Tails. It took a battle royale with a now Chaos-power enhanced Knuckles for Athair and Tails' uncle Merlin to learn the truth. After discovering the current Tails was not the original Tails, the pair conspired to maintain the secret until they could ascertain the whereabouts of their Tails. Since then, no one else has yet learned the secret, and it's only a matter of time before the fate of Miles "Tails" Prower becomes known.

HISTORY: When Sonic first encountered Amy, she was being held hostage by Robotnik as a means to bait him into a trap. It was also revealed at the time that she was his biggest fan, and the one responsible for sending him a large chunk of fan mail. After Sonic defeated Mecha-Sonic and freed Amy (as well as Tails) from the evil Robotnik's clutches, her devotion to him from that point on was beyond question. Even during the blue hedgehog's darkest moments, Amy would remain his staunchest supporter through thick and thin.

Originally, she was born to a family of noble heritage in the Kingdom of Snottingham. So taken with the plight of the poor and the sick, Amy's parents renounced their vast wealth, using it instead to increase the welfare of those less fortunate. When they fell victim to Robotnik's agent General D'Coolette, it was her father's brother — known to all as Rob O' The Hedge — who took her in and cared for her during this sad time. As conditions became more dangerous, Rob decided to send her away to a safer haven.

Due to his family's connections to royalty throughout the various kingdoms of Mobius, it was decided that the Kingdom of Acorn would be Amy's new home. Thus, it was with a heavy heart that he sent her off on a treacherous journey with only Friar Buck to protect her during the weeks it took to cross the ocean and travel the land.

Once settled in among the citizens of Knothole Village, it didn't take Amy long to make her presence felt, establishing friendships with Tails and Dulcy in short order. It also didn't take long to become frustrated with being shut out of a lot of adventures due to her young age, a situation her friend Tails could well empathize with.

When the Freedom Fighters decided to embark on a journey to explore the Hidden City of the Ancients, they once more refused to involve Amy on account of her age. After pointing out the fact Tails was the same age as her and he was going, they responded by acknowledging his experience on previous adventures as the pivotal factor. Upset by this double-standard, Amy decided to take matters into her own hands and utilized a power ring to speed up the aging process whereupon she was now physically if not mentally a sixteen-year-old teenager.

Reluctantly, the Freedom Fighters allowed her to accompany them on that and other adventures since. As for her intentions of someday marrying Sonic, she has kept those hidden from the others after watching how Mina was treated when she openly flirted with him, believing that some day she'll finally get her chance to win the heart of the greatest hero of them all.

SEGA DATA FILE: 4

AMY ROSE



FIRST APPEARANCE: SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #25, August 1995

FULL NAME: Amy Rose Hedgehog

BORN: 186 / 3226

CURRENT HEIGHT: 64 marks

5.9 stone

FUR: Pink

EYES: Blue

KNOWN FAMILY: Rob O' The Hedge (cousin)

KNOWN FRIENDS: Sonic, Princess Sally, Tails, Dulcy, Bunnie Rab-bot

HISTORY: The story about the Brotherhood of the Guardians actually begins several generations prior to its formation, at a time when the city of Echidnapolis faced imminent destruction from a falling meteor. Aware of the danger, the scientist Kayla-la suggested harnessing the vast power of Chaos emeralds in order to lift the city and surrounding landscape heavenward in order to escape their dire fate. Generations later, her descendants - the brothers Edmund and Dimitri - would recommend to reverse the process and return the Floating Island back to its original site on the Mobian surface.

When the council elders governing the city deemed the brothers' plan as way too radical, Dimitri took matters into his own hands and began to syphon the energy from the emeralds, transferring the energy into his own being. Now drunk with power, Dimitri began to conceive how he would reshape the world to his own vision. Alarmed at the behavior of his brother, Edmund fought back, aided by the fire-ants for reasons of their own self preservation.

After Dimitri was defeated and left buried under several tons of rock, it was discovered only one Chaos emerald remained. Because that sole source of energy was all that stood between the Floating Island crashing to pieces on the planetary surface below and remaining airborne, it was decided a protector of sorts was needed to safeguard the Emerald for all time. Without hesitation, Edmund accepted the responsibility, mindful of the role his family had played in Echidna history to date, and thus became the first Guardian.

When his son and the city faced the growing threat of the Dark Legion, Edmund once again rose to action. His relative inexperience, however, would prove to be his downfall, leaving him susceptible to a deadly shot fired by an unseen assassin. Devastated, Edmund's son Steppenwolf was given shelter and training by the fire-ant Christophelies. Once he was pronounced ready, Steppenwolf followed in his father's shoes.

With the passage of time, Steppenwolf passed the mantle of Guardian to his son Moonwatcher, who in turn would eventually do the same with his son Harlan. It wasn't until Harlan's son Rembrandt christened their group "The Brotherhood" that an organizational structure began to take shape. What had once been a solo mission was now routinely a group effort.

All that would change dramatically when Rembrandt's son Aaron met his tragic end while defeating the Dark Legion's latest nefarious scheme. As the Guardians grieved over their loss, Rembrandt was approached by Aaron's twin brother Jordan, who requested that he be allowed to take his place.

After much discussion, it was decided that Jordan's sole duty would be Guardian of the Chaos emerald, prolonging the period of training before elevating him to co-equal status with the rest of the Brotherhood. Due to the side-effect of an expanded lifespan from frequent exposure to the Chaos emerald, the Brotherhood believed the extra years spent in preparation for their responsibilities could prevent further casualties among their own kind.

Jordan would remain a Guardian until he had prepared his son Matthias to take his place. This precedent would be followed by every generation from that point on, Matthias would in turn train his son Hawking, who in turn would do the same for his son Tabor.

Three more generations would pass - Spectre, Thunderhawk and Sojourner - before the Guardians would welcome Janelle-Li, the first daughter ever born to one of their own, into their ranks. She would give birth to Athair, who became the first Guardian ever to renounce his station in life in favor of a greater calling.



SEGA DATA FILE: 5

BROTHERHOOD OF THE GUARDIANS



Janelle-U would resume her son's forsaken duties until she succumbed to a mysterious ailment. Since Athair made it more than clear he was never going to be a Guardian, the position was given to his son, Sabre, who eagerly accepted the responsibility of carrying on in his grandmother's stead. Sabre, in turn, passed on the role to his son Locke.

Over the past six plus years (according to Mobian time), Locke's son Knuckles is recognized everywhere as the current Guardian of the Chaos Emerald.

EDMUND (First appearance in SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #35, June, 1996)

STEPPENWOLF (First appearance in KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #1, April, 1997)

MOONWATCHER (First appearance in KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #25, June, 1999)

HARLAN (First appearance in KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #25, June, 1999)

REMBRANDT (First appearance in KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #25, June, 1999)

AARON and JORDAN (First appearance in KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #25, June, 1999)

MATTHIAS (First appearance in SONIC SUPER SPECIAL #14, September, 2000)

HAWKING (First appearance in KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #5, September, 1997)

TOBOR (First appearance in KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #16, September, 1998)

SPECTRE (First appearance in KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #16, September, 1998)

THUNDERHAWK (First appearance in KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #16, September, 1998)

SOJOURNER (First appearance in KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #16, September, 1998)

JANELLE-U (First appearance in KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #11, April, 1998)

ATHAIR (First appearance in TAILS #2, January, 1996)

SABRE (First appearance in KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #4, August, 1997)

LOCKE (First appearance in SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #33, April, 1996)

KNUCKLES (First appearance in SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #13, August, 1994)



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 Design: 60
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 C.A. 1/25/94
 600
 C.A. 1/25/94
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SUPER SPY SONIC



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ALINA VELAZQUEZ
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Sandra

FORGIVEN



MINUTES
LATER...

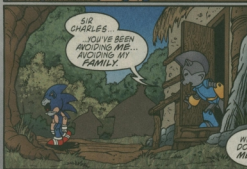
KNOCK
KNOCK

WHO...?

I'M BACK! WE
FIGURED THAT IF YOU
COULDN'T COME TO
THE SHINDIG, WE'D
BRING IT TO YOU!

HOW'S THAT FOR
QUICK-THINKING,
UNC?

PERFECT,
SONNY-BOY.
PERFECT...





EVER
SINCE WE
REGAINED
OUR FREE
WILL....*

* In lsh #100.



...YOU HAVEN'T SPOKEN
A WORD TO ME, LOBO,
OR THE KIDS.

IT WASN'T YOUR
FAULT, YOU KNOW...



HOW CAN YOU SAY
THAT? I ROBOTICIZED
YOU AND YOUR ENTIRE
FAMILY WHILE UNDER
ROBOTNIK'S CONTROL!

* SEE SONIC
SUPER
SPECIAL #11



BUT DON'T
YOU SEE? THAT'S
JUST IT!



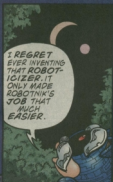
YOU WERE
UNDER ROBOTNIK'S
CONTROL!

I'LL BET
YOU DON'T EVEN
REMEMBER
DOING IT!

DOES THAT
MAKE IT SOMEHOW
EXCUSABLE?



NO ONE REMEMBERS
THAT DAY BETTER THAN
I DO. BELIEVE ME, YOU
WEREN'T YOU.



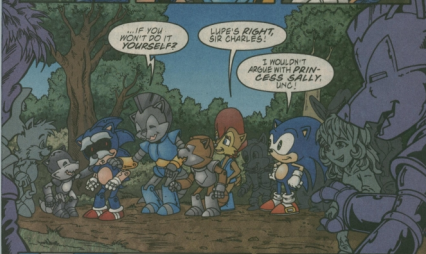
I REGRET
EVER INVENTING
THAT ROBOT-
ICIZER. IT
ONLY MADE
ROBOTNIK'S
JOB THAT
MUCH
EASIER.



ALL
I WANT IS TO BE
FORGIVEN...



HOW
CAN WE DO
THAT...



...IF YOU
WON'T DO IT
YOURSELF?

LUPE'S RIGHT,
SIR CHARLES!

I WOULDN'T
ARGUE WITH PRIN-
CESS SALLY,
UNC!



LISTEN, AMIGOS
LET THIS CELEBRATION HONOR
SIR CHARLES AS WELL AS MY
FAMILY'S JOURNEY!



THANK
YOU, LUPE
THANK
YOU!

The
End

SEGA-CON

Off Panel



THIS JUST IN!

Guess who's back?

JG, in the place to be... uh, you get the idea. Yes, your editor Justin "Freddy" Gabriele is back on editorials again. This time on a more frequent basis while Ken continues to run the letters page end of things.

First I figured I'd start things by telling you a little bit about me like... where did "JG" come from? Well, it's a nickname I received while working at SEGA that just grew a life of its own. I personally like it better than "Freddy," which is still used by all my high school buddies (but sometimes I feel like that's a name I grew out of, so to speak). Coincidentally enough, it also started out as a nickname I got from work at the local Burger King as a teen, which grew a life of its own. So now that you know something about me, I will now bring you to my next discussion.

INFLUENCES. Episode I

With Star Wars Episode II in theaters now (I saw the midnight showing and an afternoon showing two days later at a digital projection theater and yes, it looked as clear as a DVD, the difference being it was seen on the big screen), I thought I'd write about how all the Star Wars (SW) films have influenced me as well as this comic. First off, being an extreme Star Wars fan (I've got toys, books, comics, posters, etc. from all five movies), I spurt out lines from all the movies and delve deep into the mythology and the story that binds the original trilogy to the prequels. I realize that if not for these movies, I may not be doing what I'm doing now... comic books. George Lucas's work opened my eyes to the world of creativity. I began to create my own stories and as a Jedi Master once said, "... once you start down the dark path, forever will it dominate your destiny".

I shall continue to talk about this subject next month...

Until then "May The Force Be With You!" **JG**

NOTE: Due to the overwhelming amount of e-mail and snail mail, it is impossible for us to reply personally to each and every message. However, your opinions are important to us and each message will be read. Also, due to space limitations, some correspondence may be edited.
Thanks for understanding!

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Ken Penders here so we can get to this month's mail, starting with a newcomer from overseas, no less...

82

I'm a new reader to your comic! In fact, #109 is my first ever issue! Why haven't I ever read your comic before, you ask? Well, the main reason is, I live in the UK! And why have I only just decided to start reading? Because the official UK Sonic comic went out of publication last December. I then had a 4-month anxiety gap, before I decided to regain my regular Sonic fix via your comic.

So, what do I think? I shall tell all!

The cover art is pretty cool (ha, ha) for a start! The pic on the first page is cool, too! (I'm guessing it was drawn by J.Azer, judging by those little lines on the characters' cheeks). As for Ron Lim's art, I think he's trying a little too hard to copy Manga-style drawing. I herd it through the pipeline was just so-so... :)

J.Azer's art is immediately my favourite! He put so much detail into the drawings, and they look really good! I especially like the way he drew Sonic, although you only see him for a bit in 'The Truth' (great story). I can't wait to see them draw a proper Sonic story!

'Reunification' had good art, and a good storyline, but I had to read it four times just to figure out what was going on (but when I finally did, it was great). By the way, why was Knuckles green?!! Series like that can be very confusing for new readers! A. A.

Anyhow, I'm gonna keep collecting, so keep up the good work!

Mark Teo, England, UK

Welcome to our balancing act, Mark. On the one hand, we bust our tails trying to make every issue something special that'll encourage new readers such as yourself to give us a try without overwhelming them with the fact we have 100-plus issues worth of continuity. On the other hand, the majority of our readers are aware of that 100-plus issue continuity and expect us to keep the ball moving forward. It's tough. So why don't you get back to us a few issues down the road and tell us how we're doing to keep you as a reader, okay?

Dear Sonic-Grans,

This is my first time writing a letter, so bear with me here... I really liked Sonic The Hedgehog #108. It had that "lighthearted" feel to it again, that feeling I had when I was reading the comic before Sonic The Hedgehog #10. After issue #58, things started to go downhill but I stuck with the book and I prayed that it would someday return to its former glory. Boy, I think my prayers were answered when Sonic The Hedgehog #108 arrived at my door, with not one, but THREE stories in it, and a new writer for the main story as well. Gee, I don't think I could go living for a week with Robotnik, could you? The middle story was the best I've seen out of Karl Bollers since his last story arc "Crushing Hedgehog, Hidden Dragon", starring Hope. That story brought tears to

my eyes. Last but definitely not least, Part 3 of 'Reunification'! Boy, I didn't really think Raminator would ever resort to killing Knuckles, with everything they've gone through together. WHY would he do it? I guess we'll learn next time, but OVERALL I like where both Sonic and Knuckles are heading. The writers seem to be on track again, and with two fan artists on the book, it's a WHOLE NEW BEGINNING! Peace.
Alex Tibbetts aka SatiAmhog

J.Azer and Down Best are sure something, aren't they? So is newcomer Benny Ter. So much so that Karl, Spaz and I have to show we have as much game each issue, and that's a good thing for everyone, yeah? The only quibble anyone might have with your comments is the three-story format. There's more than a few of you who wouldn't mind seeing full-length stories in these pages.

Dear Sonic-grans,

I want to take this opportunity to congratulate to both Down Best and J.Azer for finally joined the Archie Adventure Series as one of their talented artists. We hope to see more of their talented works in the future. They will always be the inspiration to us at art4net and all the fan furry-artists around the world! Good luck to both of you!

Morina Tay

Yeah, we kinda locked out with those two, didn't we?

Both Karl and I felt some fresh blood was needed and everyone's been happy since. Look for better things from them in the months ahead.

And now for something of extreme importance to more than a few of you (as if I didn't have enough details to think about)...

Dear Knuckles crew,

Since I posted a Knuckles family tree nearly a year ago on my Knuckles site, I actually didn't pay much attention to the answers printed in SONIC #109 until someone emailed me informing me of an error in my tree.

Back in the letters page for KNUCKLES #31, we're told (and I'm typing this straight from the comic): "Followed by Athir is his mother Janelle-Li, the first and only female Guardian, and daughter of Thunderhawk. Thunderhawk's father was Squornor, who was the child of Spectre."

Now, I remember that there was an error once before in the KNUCKLES series with Kragek calling Monitor Rex his father instead of grandfather, so I'm wondering if the letters page in KNUCKLES #21 is wrong or if it was a slight mistake, just like in SONIC #103 when it showed that there were two girls in the Guardian line (Janelle-Li & Lomp-Ka for the respective generations—I don't think that was a big deal since I figured the answers would correct that and they did).

It's not a huge thing, but I figured I'd bring it to your attention.

Katrice Georges

I accept full blame for that mix-up, Katrice, as nobody but me had the whole line-up straight until I decided to do the family tree on the record. Once I saw that coloring mistake in #103, I knew I would be hearing about it before long. For the record, Sonja-Ka was never a Guardian, and the timeline for the Dark Legion side of the family doesn't necessarily track the same as the Guardian side after the birth

of Menicker and Stoppewell due to the fact a lot of their quality time was spent in other zones which don't exactly use Greenwich Mean Time as a standard unit of measure. The major question yet to be solved is Kragek's child, yes, the character has appeared in the Knuckles series, and no, it hasn't been revealed who the offspring is, which is why neither blue or pink were used as a clue who this character is. To date, I've heard from only one person who nailed it.

Dear Sonic Team,

This is in response to a letter in #110. I agree that Sonic should just stay the way it is. It doesn't need to look any more anime-like than it already does. If it isn't broken, don't fix it, don't mess up a good thing. I could go on and on. Anyway, I used to read SONIC when I was younger and I just started again. I find the new artist is great. As he continues to draw he probably get even better.

Sincerely the miss way past cool Sonic fan,

Yves McGrae

I dunno, Yves. I've kinda grown fond of the more anime-like style some of our artists have been gravitating towards. I suspect we'll be having this debate long past issue #230 and then some. As it is, we have only so much room on our letters page any given issue.

On that note, we'll continue with more of your comments and criticisms next issue.



NO. 113

Cover illustration by Patrick Spazante and Nelson Ribeiro with colors and separations by Josh D. Ray. Edit page layout & design by Jaeger.



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